Serial No.: 09/732,874 Docket No.: 1538.1005

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 14, 15, 20, and 21 have been amended based on the description in Table 1, etc., and new claim 22 has been added. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-9, 11-15 and 17-22 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 22 recites that the features of the present invention include a message processing system, comprising: a processing unit that analyzes a received message, determines whether a predetermined condition including a requirement relating to a time when said received message occurred is fulfilled, and performs a process corresponding to the fulfilled predetermined condition if said processing unit determines that said received message fulfilled said predetermined condition, including the requirement relating to the time when said received message occurred; and a transmitting unit that transmits said received message to a predetermined alternate destination of said received message if said processing unit determined that said received message did not fulfill said predetermined condition, wherein said predetermined condition further includes a requirement relating to a combination of a plurality of messages, and wherein a content of said process corresponding to said fulfilled predetermined condition is defined in a tag data structure.

Nothing in the prior art teaches or suggests such. It is submitted that this new claim distinguishes over the prior art.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

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If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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11 2004

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